

#### **Dear San Diego County Taxpayer:**

In our ongoing efforts to improve customer satisfaction, we continue to incorporate many of your thoughts and suggestions regarding possible additional improvements to the tax bill.

#### 2008-2009 Property Tax Bill

This year we have made a number of changes to your 2008-2009 property tax bill. We have increased the font size on many parts of the bill to facilitate easier reading. We have highlighted in red important information about your tax bill. We have also included the addresses of our office locations on both payment stubs and improved the "address change" portion of the tax bill.

#### Tax Bills Go Green!

Last year, all of the tax bill materials were printed on recycled paper. San Diego is the largest urban county in California to "go green" with the tax bills.

#### Tax Bill Guide

This year we are pleased to present to you the *Tax Bill Guide*, which has been redesigned to help you better understand your annual property tax bill. We have included captions highlighted in green to address the areas of the tax bill which tend to generate the most questions each year. The *Tax Bill Guide* also includes information regarding how taxes are allocated, payment option information and special property tax programs administered by the State of California.

If you have any questions regarding your tax bill, or to make a payment, please do not hesitate to contact us on our website at www.sdtreastax.com or toll free at 877.829.4732.

We look forward to continuing to serve you.

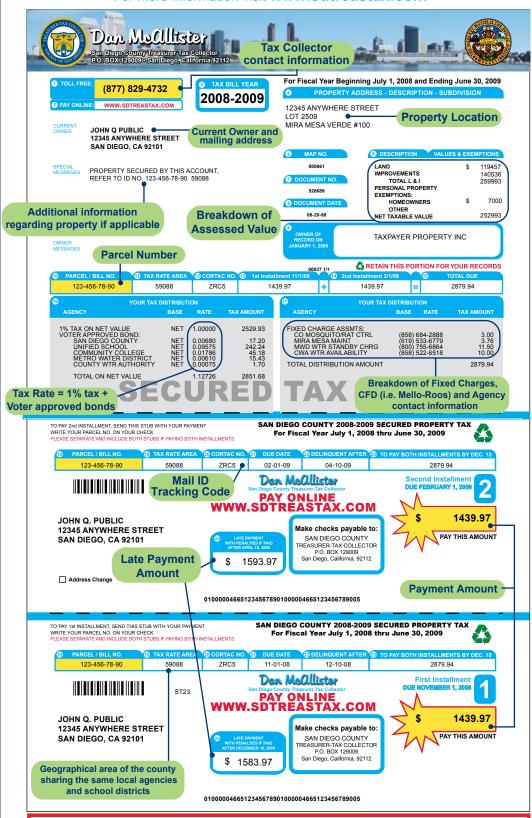
# Dan Mcallister

San Diego County Treasurer-Tax Collector



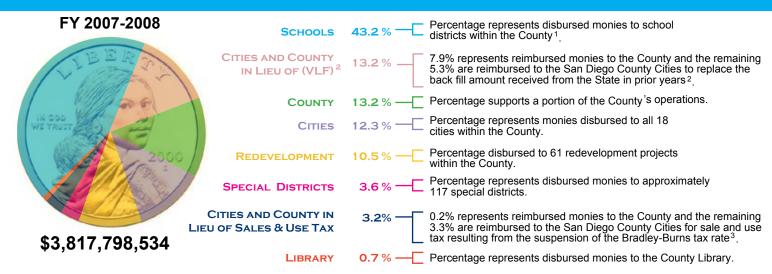
# Tax Bill Guide

#### For more information visit www.sdtreastax.com



IMPOUND INFORMATION - If the enclosed bill is watermarked in the gray shaded area with the notation "Copy - See Enclosed Insert," then the tax bill information was requested by a bank, mortgage company, or other agent on your behalf. If you do not have a lender or other agent paying your taxes, please use the stubs on the enclosed bill to pay the taxes yourself. If you refinance your loan, you should check with your lender as to how your property tax payments will be handled.

## **HOW YOUR 1% PROPERTY TAXES ARE ALLOCATED**



NOTE: In addition to the 1% property tax established by Proposition 13, your tax bill may include levies for voter approved debt and special assessments. For more information on how your 1% property taxes are allocated, go to web site: www.sdcounty.ca.gov/pts

- Revenue for Schools has been reduced by the ERAF deficit as authorized under Senate Bill 1096, chaptered August 5, 2004.
- <sup>2</sup>Represents the exchange of Property Tax for Cities and County Vehicle License Fees as authorized under Senate Bill 1096, chaptered August 5, 2004.
- <sup>3</sup>Represents the exchange of Property Tax for Cities and County Sales and Use Tax as authorized under Assembly Bill 1766, chaptered August 2, 2003.

### **PAYMENT INFORMATION**







**NOTE**: A credit card fee will be added to your tax payment based on the amount of the payment processed. These fees are imposed by the credit card provider, NOT by the County of San Diego. The fees will be disclosed prior to any transaction being processed. We cannot accept credit card transactions through the mail. **There is no charge for e-check payments made online**.

## FIVE CONVENIENT OFFICES TO SERVE YOU

County Administration Center • 1600 Pacific Highway, Rm. 162, San Diego, CA 92101

Chula Vista • 590 Third Ave., Chula Vista, CA 91910

El Cajon • 200 S. Magnolia Ave., El Cajon, CA 92020

El Cajon • 200 3. Magnolla Ave., El Cajon, CA 92020

Kearny Mesa • 9225 Clairemont Mesa Blvd., San Diego, CA 92123

San Marcos • 141 E. Carmel St., San Marcos, CA 92078

## PROPERTY TAX ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS



# Property Tax Postponement for Senior Citizens or Blind or Disabled Persons

The Property Tax Postponement law allows eligible homeowners to postpone paying all or part of their property taxes. To be eligible for postponement, the homeowner must meet all of the following requirements: (1) be either 62 years of age or older, blind, or disabled; (2) own and occupy the home continually since December 31, 2007; (3) have a 2007 household income of \$35,500 or less; and (4) have at least 20% equity interest in the home. The homeowner must complete an application each year they want to participate in the program. To secure repayment of the postponed taxes, the State records a lien against the home. The lien remains on the home until the account is paid in full. The postponed taxes plus accrued interest becomes due and payable when the homeowner either 1) dies and does not have a spouse, registered domestic partner, or other qualified individual who continues to reside in the home; 2) sells the home; 3) moves from the property; or 4) allows senior liens to become delinquent. The filing period for the current year taxes starts May 15, 2008 and ends December 10, 2008.

Additional information and claim forms regarding TAX POSTPONEMENT can be obtained at the California State Controller's Office, www.sco.ca.gov or 800.952.5661.



# Property Tax Assistance for Senior Citizens or Blind or Disabled Persons

The Gonsalves--Deukmejian--Petris Senior Citizens Property Tax Assistance Law provides direct cash assistance based on part of the property taxes paid on the homes of qualified individuals with limited household incomes who are either: (1) 62 or older, (2) blind, or (3) disabled; and a U.S. citizen or eligible alien. Claims for assistance are based on the 2008/2009 property taxes. The filing period runs from July 1, 2009 through October 15, 2009. Qualified individuals must file a claim form each year in order to receive assistance. Filing for property tax assistance will not reduce the amount of property taxes owed to the County Tax Collector.

Between July 1, 2008 and October 15, 2008, you can have a volunteer help fill out your claim for free. For information about this service, or to get claim forms or additional information regarding the Homeowner and Renter Assistance Program, please contact the California Franchise Tax Board at www.ftb.ca.gov or 800.868.4171.